(c) The increase in prices of edible oils is due to increase in cost of inputs for production of edible oil, increase in transportation charges, existence of a gap between domestic demand and indigenous supply of edible oils which could not be bridged through imports, speculative forces, increase in money supply, inflationary trends in the economiy and delaying arrival of the monsoon in some oilseed growing areas.

(d) Under the Government of India's Oilseeds Production Programme, subsidy is being given during 1991-92 for inputs like seed, plant protection chemicals and equipment, improved farm emplements, sprinkle- sets, rhyzobium culture packets, gypsum and pyrites.

(e) and (f) The quantum of edible oils to be imported is dcided by Government from time to time, keeping in view the gap between domestic demand and indigenous supply, availability of foreign exchange, international prices of oils to be imported and other related factors. The Government has not taken any decision so far during the current financial year for import of dible oils. Hence, the question of determining the countries from which edible oil will be imported and timing of imports does not arise.

Lack of basic amenities to Railway passengers

411. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a general deterioration in the basic amenities being provided by the Railways to its travelling public;

(b) whether it is also a fact that no drinking water is provided in Ist A.C., IInd A.C., and IInd class ordinary compartments;

(c) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(d) what action Government are taking to ensure that such basic amenities are provided to travelling public?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Some complaints have, however, been received. Drinking water is supplied to passengers in second class ordinary compartments through hot-weather watermen appointed during summer only.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) It is the endeavour of the Railways to provide basic amenities to all railway stations/trains as per norms laid down. To ensure this a survey was conducted in 1987 and deficiencies in basic amenities at stations as on 1-4-88 were eliminated by 31-3-91 under and 'Action Plan'. Regular inspections are carried out by Officers and supervisory staff to ensure provision of basic amenities at stations and in trains. Remedial action is taken expeditiously and deficiencies noted by inspecting officials are made good.

312. [*Transferred to the 25th July, 1991*]

Review of working of employee's state insurance corporation and provident fund

413. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reviewed the working of the Employee's State Insurance (ESI) and Provident Fund recently;

(b) if so, whether any consultations with workers have also taken place in this regard;

(c) by when, Government propose to bring forward an amendment in the Employee's State Insurance Act to streamline the pending issues problems; and

(d) whether provident Fund Account in all the regions have been computerised. if not, the reasons therefor and by when a decision is likely to be taken in this regard?